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STAR TREK

CAPTAIN'S LOG: HARRIMAN

COVERS CHECKLIST

Cover by David Messina
Colors by Giovanna Niro

Retailer Incentive Photo Cover

Written by
Marc Guggenheim

Art by
Andrew Currie

Colors by
Moose Baumann

Letters by
Neil Uyetake

Edits by
Scott Dunbier

STAR TREK created by Gene Roddenberry

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Operations: Ted Adams, Chief Executive Officer • Greg Goldstein, Chief Operating Officer • Matthew Ruzicka, CPA, Chief Financial Officer • Alan Payne, VP of Sales • Lorelei Bunjes, Dir. of Digital Services • AnnaMaria White, Marketing & PR Manager • Marci Hubbard, Executive Assistant • Alonzo Simon, Shipping Manager • Angela Loggins, Staff Accountant • Editorial: Chris Ryall, Publisher/Editor-in-Chief • Scott Dunbier, Editor, Special Projects • Andy Schmidt, Senior Editor • Bob Schreck, Senior Editor • Justin Eisinger, Editor • Kris Oprisko, Editor/Foreign Lic. • Denton J. Tipton, Editor • Tom Waltz, Editor • Mariah Huehner, Associate Editor • Carlos Guzman, Editorial Assistant • Design: Robbie Robbins, EVP/Sr. Graphic Artist • Neil Uyetake, Art Director • Chris Mowry, Graphic Artist • Amauri Osorio, Graphic Artist • Gilberto Lazcano, Production Assistant • Shawn Lee, Production Assistant

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STARDATE 9826.9
"WE'RE CAUGHT IN A GRAVIMETRIC FIELD EMANATING FROM THE TRAILING EDGE OF THE RIBBON!"
THERE'S JUST NO WAY TO DISRUPT A GRAVIMETRIC FIELD OF THIS MAGNITUDE.
BUT I DO HAVE A THEORY.
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT.
AN ANTI-MATTER DISCHARGE DIRECTLY AHEAD MIGHT DISRUPT THE FIELD LONG ENOUGH FOR US TO BREAK AWAY.
PHOTON TORPEDOES.
AYE.
CAPTAIN, WE DON'T HAVE ANY TORPEDOES.
DON'T TELL ME: TUESDAY.
CAPTAIN...
"...IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO SIMULATE A TORPEDO BLAST USING A RESONANCE BURST FROM THE MAIN DEFLECTOR DISH."
"I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT."

THAT'S IT!
"LET'S GO!"
GHRRAAAAAAAAAAAAAAM
BRIDGE TO CAPTAIN KIRK.
"CAPTAIN KIRK... PLEASE RESPOND."
DAMMIT, JIM... WHAT THE HELL'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?

WHAT WERE YOU THINKING?
SIX MONTHS LATER
STARDATE 9856.4
I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN... I'LL DIE ALONE.
FIGURES YOU'D BE RIGHT ABOUT THAT TOO, DOESN'T IT?
GOODBYE, JIM.

THE U.S.S. ENTERPRISE-B
EN ROUTE TO THE ANTARES SYSTEM
WARP 3.
STARDATE 9856.4.
CONSCRIPTED PHYSICIAN'S PERSONAL LOG.
YOU'RE DAMN RIGHT, "CONSCRIPTED." WHAT THE HELL ELSE DO YOU CALL BEING SHANGHAIED OUT OF RETIREMENT BY STARFLEET'S LITTLE KNOWN, SELDOM USED "RESERVE ACTIVATION CLAUSE?"
I COULD LIVE TO BE 137—
—SOMETHING I FIND EXTREMELY UNLIKELY. AND, YES, THAT'S MY MEDICAL OPINION—
—AND I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND WHY OF ALL THE DOCTORS IN THE UNIVERSE I'M THE ONLY ONE QUALIFIED TO DEAL WITH AN OUTBREAK OF TERRELLIAN VIRUS.
ENSIGN!
YES, SIR?
I NEED SOMEONE TO POINT ME THE WAY TO THE DAMN BRIDGE.
OF COURSE, SIR...
AND DON'T CALL ME "SIR."
SORRY, SIR.
IF YOU WANT TO FIND THE BRIDGE, YOU ASK THE COMPUTER TO LOCATE YOUR CURRENT POSITION AND CALCULATE THE OPTIMAL WAY TO YOUR DESTINATION USING ONE OF THE FIVE AVAILABLE TURBOLIFTS...
SON, AT MY AGE, THE ONLY PATIENCE I'VE GOT BELONG IN A WAITING ROOM, UNDERSTAND?
THAT'S VERY CLEVER, SIR—
Y'KNOW, WHAT IF I JUST ESCORT YOU TO THE BRIDGE?
THAT WOULD BE DANDY.
"WELCOME TO THE BRIDGE."

IT'S LIKE I NEVER LEFT. WHAT, STARFLEET DESIGNERS ONLY KNOW ONE DESIGN?
JOHN HARRIMAN.
DID YOU ENJOY YOUR TOUR OF THE SHIP?
I SPENT MOST OF MY TIME IN THE DEFLECTOR CONTROL ROOM.
...OF COURSE.
ER, OUR SHIP'S DOCTOR CAN ACQUAINT YOU WITH SICKBAY IF YOU HAVEN'T—
I'VE SEEN IT. YOU THINK I'D START ANY MISSION—EVEN ONE I WAS DRAFTED INTO—WITHOUT PAYING A VISIT?
I JUST CAME UP HERE TO PAY MY RESPECTS. LEMME KNOW WHEN WE GET TO ANTARES...
DOCTOR McCOY—

SIR, I JUST WANTED TO— WELL, I'D LIKE TO APOLOGIZE.
AND I'D LIKE TO BE *HOME*. THE UNIVERSE IS FULL OF DISAPPOINTMENT.
...
YOU'RE ANGRY WITH ME—
AND *YOU'RE* PERCEPTIVE—
YOU HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO BE. YOUR FRIEND DIED WHILE ABOARD MY SHIP.
PERMISSION TO SPEAK FREELY?
OF COURSE.
I'VE REVIEWED THE SHIP'S LOGS AND THE BRIDGE RECORDER AND I'M HERE TO TELL YOU THAT JIM KIRK *DIDN'T* DIE WHILE ABOARD *YOUR* SHIP.
WHAT—?
YOU WEREN'T IN COMMAND.
AS BEST AS I CAN TELL, JIM KIRK WAS IN COMMAND. HE WAS CALLING THE SHOTS. YOU WERE FIGURATIVELY BALLED UP IN THE FETAL POSITION.

CAN I GO NOW?
DOCTOR McCOY—
LOOK, I'M SORRY. I MISS MY FRIEND AND IT'S MAKING ME PISSY.
MORE PISSY.
FORGET ABOUT IT—
I WISH I COULD.
IF YOU THINK IT'S EASY BEING THE CAPTAIN WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF A MONUMENT, YOU'RE WRONG.
IF YOU THINK I DON'T FEEL THE WEIGHT OF THAT JUDGMENT IN EVERYONE'S EYES—
EVERYONE'S—ESPECIALLY MY CREW'S—YOU'RE WRONG.
THIS MISSION TO THE ANTARES SYSTEM IS THE FIRST TIME THE ENTERPRISE-B'S BEEN PUT TO SPACE SINCE—WELL, YOU KNOW.
I'M ONLY HERE TO MAKE SURE SHE'S IN PROPER WORKING ORDER. ONCE I DO, AND THIS MISSION'S COMPLETE... I'M RESIGNING AS CAPTAIN.
I'M RESIGNING FROM STARFLEET.
IN THIS LIFE, YOU GOTTA DO WHAT YOU THINK IS BEST.

KLINGON BATTLECRUISER VENGEANCE
IN ORBIT AROUND ANTARES
"THERE SHALL BE NO PEACE AS LONG AS KIRK LIVES."
GENERAL CHOROTH, COMMANDING
SIR?
JUST... MUSING, KURR.
THE EMPIRE, AS EVER, WAS AS GOOD AS ITS WORD.
KIRK IS DEAD AND NOW PEACE IS UPON US.

WITH THE KHITOMER ACCORDS SIGNED, PEACE SEEMS MORE THAN "UPON" US.
EXCEPT THAT THE FEDERATION IS ABOUT TO VIOLATE THOSE ACCORDS BY SENDING A STARFLEET BATTLE CRUISER INTO KHITOMER-DISPUTED SPACE.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND...
NOR DO YOU NEED TO.
NEVERTHELESS, SIR, AND WITH RESPECT, BUT THE CREW—
CAREFUL, SH'GOTH. YOUR TONE SUGGESTS A QUESTIONING OF YOUR COMMANDER'S ORDERS.
NOT QUESTIONING, MY LIEGE. MERELY UNDERSTANDABLE CURIOSITY.
THERE ARE RUMORS AMONG THE CREW THAT THE PLAGUE ON THE PLANET BELOW IS OUR DOING SOMEHOW.
YOU CAN'T MAKE A G'DATH WITHOUT CRACKING A FEW VEILL, SH'GOTH.
SO YOU'RE SAYING THAT WE—
I SAY NOTHING. I ADMIT NOTHING.
SAVE THAT THE UNIVERSE IS A COMPLEX PLACE FILLED WITH ALL MANNER OF WONDER.
AND THAT HONOR AND GLORY CANNOT BE NEGOTIATED AWAY WITH A THOUSAND ACCORDS.

CHIME
COME.
MIND IF I COME IN?
8
OF COURSE.
I'VE POURED MYSELF A DRINK. WOULD YOU LIKE ONE?
I OWE YOU AN APOLOGY
I'VE BEEN AN ASS. MAYBE IT'S GRIEF, MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I'M AN ASS. EITHER WAY, I'M SORRY
I'M NOT SURE WHAT YOU HAVE TO APOLOGIZE FOR.
I'VE BEEN PRETTY DAMN HARSH ON YOU. HARSHER THAN YOU DESERVE
REASONABLE MINDS CAN DISAGREE ON THAT, DOCTOR.
BUT IF YOU DON'T MIND ME ASKING, WHAT BROUGHT THIS ON?
A MAN CAN'T HAVE A CHANGE OF HEART? OR AN ATTACK OF CONSCIENCE?
I WAS THINKING ABOUT IT. JIM'S DEATH.
HONESTLY, I HAVEN'T BEEN THINKING ABOUT MUCH ELSE THESE DAYS...
AND IT OCCURS TO ME, STARFLEET BUREAUCRACY'S AS MUCH TO BLAME FOR JIM'S DEATH AS YOU.
THE BEAN COUNTERS PUT YOU TO SPACE WITHOUT PHOTON TORPEDOES OR A FUNCTIONAL TRACTOR BEAM.

A BETTER CAPTAIN WOULD'VE THOUGHT OF A WAY AROUND THOSE LIMITATIONS.
A BETTER CAPTAIN DID.
AND NOW HE'S DEAD
YOU WANT SOME UNSOLICITED ADVICE?
I'LL TAKE ANY KIND I CAN GET.
YOUR PROBLEM'S NOT IN THE PAST. JIM KIRK DIED. SOME PEOPLE'LL BLAME YOU, SOME PEOPLE'LL BLAME THE BEAN COUNTERS.
BUT NONE OF IT MATTERS BECAUSE IT'S IN THE PAST.
BUT IN THE *PRESENT*, YOU'VE GOT TO CONTEND WITH A CREW THAT, FROM WHAT I CAN TELL, HAS AS MUCH FAITH IN THEIR CAPTAIN AS HE HAS IN HIMSELF.
WHICH IS TO SAY, NOT A WHOLE HELLUVA LOT.
AND IT DOESN'T MATTER YOU'RE PLANNING ON PUTTING IN YOUR PAPERS AT THE END OF THIS MISSION, YOU'VE STILL GOT A CREW YOU NEED TO SEE THROUGH IT.
THAT CREW...
...THEY SAW ME DROP THE BALL
"THEY SAW ME INDECISIVE. THEY SAW ME UNSURE.
"AND THEY SAW 369 SOULS DIE AS A RESULT."
I CAN SEE THEM THROUGH THIS MISSION, BUT THEY'LL ALWAYS SEE RIGHT THROUGH *ME*
OKAY. SOME MORE UNSOLICITED ADVICE, THEN: JIM ALWAYS SAID HALF OF BEING A STARSHIP CAPTAIN'S ACTING LIKE ONE.
IN OTHER WORDS, FAKE IT 'TIL YOU MAKE IT.
FAIR ENOUGH. BUT YOU'VE GOT TO ADMIT JIM KIRK NEVER NEEDED TO FAKE IT.
HE FAKED IT ALL THE TIME. HELL, THAT WAS THE MAN'S TACTIC OF CHOICE.

TELL YOU A STORY...
THE LAST VOYAGE OF THE ORIGINAL ENTERPRISE WAS—WELL, LET'S SAY, AN UNOFFICIAL TRIP TO A PLANET CALLED GENESIS.
GENESIS... A LOT OF THAT STUFF'S CLASSIFIED.
THEN KEEP THIS QUIET—WHEN WE GOT TO GENESIS, WE CAME UNDER ATTACK BY A KLINGON BIRD OF PREY
WE TRADED PHOTON TORPEDOES. WE HIT 'EM BAD, BUT THEY GOT US WORSE.
"WE ONLY HAD A SKELETON CREW ABOARD.
"THE REST OF THE SHIP WAS RUN BY AUTOMATION AND, WELL, THE SHIP-TO-SHIP COMBAT OVERLOADED THE SYSTEM.
"WE WERE DEAD IN SPACE WITH NO SHIELDS, NO PHASERS AND NO PHOTON TORPEDOES.
"YOU COULDN'T SEE IT ON HIS FACE, BUT JIM WAS SCARED."
"WHAT HE ALWAYS DID."
THIS IS ADMIRAL JAMES T. KIRK OF THE FEDERATION STARSHIP ENTERPRISE.
YOUR PRESENCE HERE IS AN ACT OF WAR. YOU HAVE TWO MINUTES TO SURRENDER YOUR CREW AND YOUR VESSEL OR WE WILL DESTROY YOU
WHAT'D HE DO?
"HE BLUFFED."

AND IT WORKED
NO, ACTUALLY. NOT THIS TIME.
IT WAS JUST A MATTER OF TIME, I SUPPOSE. A QUESTION OF ODDS.
YOU BLUFF ENOUGH TIMES, SOONER OR LATER, YOUR BLUFF GETS CALLED. THE KLINGON COMMANDER CALLED JIM'S BLUFF.
THE KLINGON WAS HOLDING JIM'S SON HOSTAGE. HE HAD HIM KILLED.
"I CAN'T DESCRIBE THE LOOK IN JIM'S EYES.
"HIS SON KILLED.
"HIS SHIP DEFENSELESS.
"FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE HE WAS A CADET, JAMES T. KIRK DIDN'T KNOW WHAT THE HELL TO DO."

YOU'RE ALIVE. HE MUST'VE THOUGHT OF SOMETHING.
TRUE ENOUGH.
JIM KNEW THAT THE KLINGON COMMANDER WOULD SEND MOST OF HIS CREW OVER AS BOARDING PARTY AND THAT SOME WERE ALREADY ON THE PLANET'S SURFACE.
SO HE BEAMED US DOWN THERE AND, WHEN THE KLINGONS WERE ABOARD, HE SCUTTLED THE SHIP.
HE BLEW UP HIS OWN SHIP? HE BLEW UP THE ENTERPRISE?
IT WAS THE ONLY WAY. IT WAS JUST A SHIP. STARFLEET MADE ANOTHER JUST LIKE IT.
THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT JIM SAVED LIVES.
I SEE.
I'M TELLING YOU THIS TO MAKE A POINT— IT'S OKAY TO BE SCARED.
IT'S OKAY TO BE UNSURE OF YOURSELF.
BUT YOU'VE GOT TO PUT IT AWAY WHEN YOU SIT IN THAT CHAIR.
REMEMBER, WHEN YOU'RE ON THE BRIDGE OF THIS SHIP, YOU'RE NOT JOHN HARRIMAN— YOU'RE CAPTAIN HARRIMAN.
AND CAPTAINS ARE NEVER AFRAID AND THEY ALWAYS KNOW WHAT TO DO. OR...
...THEY PRETEND THEY DO.
YOU'RE A WISE MAN, DOCTOR.
NAH. I'M AN OLD MAN. PEOPLE JUST MISTAKE ONE FOR THE OTHER.
BEEP
YES?
CAPTAIN, WE HAVE A KLINGON BATTLECRUISER IN THIS SECTOR.
CLOSING FAST.
...
I'M ON MY WAY

CAPTAIN ON THE BRIDGE.
STATUS?
KLINGON BATTLECRUISER, CAPTAIN. K'TINGA CLASS. SHE'S AT 1200 METERS AND CLOSING.
NO COMMUNICATIONS FROM THEM YET.
ON SCREEN.
YELLOW ALERT.
NOT RED, SIR?
RED ALERT REQUIRES US TO RAISE OUR SHIELDS, WHICH, IN THIS SITUATION, WOULD VIOLATE ARTICLE 9 OF THE KHITOMER ACCORDS.
AND DON'T QUESTION MY ORDERS, LIEUTENANT.
AYE, SIR. YELLOW ALERT. ENERGIZING DEFENSE FIELDS...

HAILING FREQUENCIES.
HAILING FREQUENCIES, AYE
KLINGON VESSEL, THIS IS CAPTAIN JOHN HARRIMAN OF THE FEDERATION STARSHIP ENTERPR—
YOU ARE IN VIOLATION OF ARTICLE 6 OF THE KHITOMER ACCORDS
SHE'S POWERING UP HER WEAPONS!
RED ALERT RAISE—
WE'RE ON A HUMANITARIAN—A MERCY MISSION WHICH IS PERMISSIBLE UNDER—
THE PENALTY FOR THIS TRANSGRESSION IS DEATH
CHOOO

WHAT?
THE SHIELDS AREN'T RESPONDING—
THEY MUST'VE TARGETED THE EMITTERS—
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW ANYONE COULD DO—
QUIET, DEMORA. TAKE EVASIVE ACTION.
MR. MARRIJU, WORK ON GETTING THOSE SHIELDS UP.
HARD TO STARBOARD!
KKOOOOOOOOOOOM!

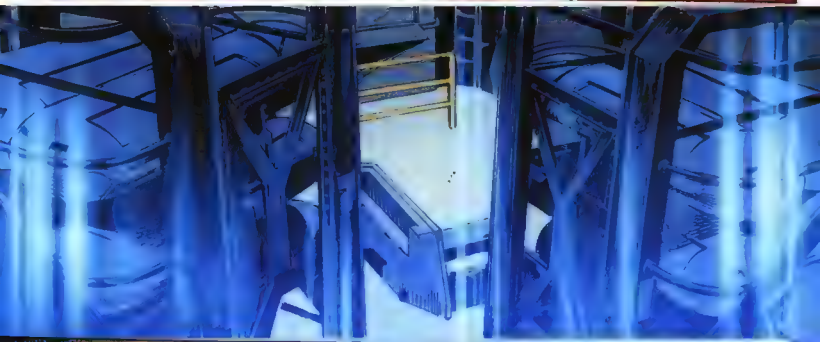
ALL POWER TO THE WEAPONS SYSTEMS! FIRE AT WILL, MR. MARRUU!
SHOOO

NO, CAPTAIN! YOU CAN'T SURRENDER!
SIT DOWN, COMMANDER.
BUT CAPTAIN—!
SIT. DOWN
THAT'S AN ORDER, COMMANDER.
HAILING FREQUENCIES OPEN, CAPTAIN.
COMMANDER KLINGON VESSEL. THIS IS CAPTAIN HARRIMAN.
WE SURRENDER.

REPEAT— *ENTERPRISE* SURRENDERS.
PREPARE YOUR SHIP TO BE BOARDED, CAPTAIN.
GIVE ME A MINUTE TO INFORM MY CREW.
ONE MINUTE
MR. MARRUU... SET ALL OF THE SHIP'S STORES OF PHOTON TORPEDOES TO DETONATE IN THIRTY SECONDS.
MIND IF I ASK, CAPTAIN, JUST WHAT THE HELL YOU'RE DOING?
WHAT JIM KIRK WOULD DO.
"HE BLEW UP HIS OWN SHIP? HE BLEW UP THE *ENTERPRISE*?"
"IT WAS THE ONLY WAY. IT WAS JUST A SHIP. STARFLEET MADE ANOTHER JUST LIKE IT."
"THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT JIM SAVED LIVES."
TRANSPORTER ROOM, LISTEN CAREFULLY...

TIME IS UP, ENTERPRISE.

VERY WELL. ENGAGING TRANSPORTERS...



RAKOOOOOOOOOOOOM

YOU DID IT, CAPTAIN!
TRANSPORTER ROOM. DO YOU HAVE THEM?
YES, SIR.
TAKE 'EM TO THE BRIG.
YES, SIR.
WELL DONE, CAPTAIN.
THANK YOU, DOCTOR
NO, THANK *YOU*. YOU SAVED OUR LIVES. AND WHEN I WATCHED YOU DO IT... IT REMINDED ME OF SOMEONE.
AN ABSENT FRIEND
...AND THE VOYAGES CONTINUE...

IDW WORDS
News from the nerve center of IDW Publishing

G.I. JOE GETS PERSONAL WITH MAX BROOKS!

Best-selling author of **World War Z** *tackles childhood dream project in G.I. JOE: HEARTS & MINDS.*

Best-selling novelist **Max Brooks** makes his IDW debut in May with G.I. JOE: HEARTS & MINDS, next month. Joining Max are artists **Howard Chaykin** and **Antonio Fuso**. Chaykin, beyond being a comics master, has also been contributing covers to G.I. JOE and its highly acclaimed sister title, G.I. JOE: COBRA. Fuso has turned heads of critics and fans alike also on G.I. JOE: COBRA. IDW Publishing spoke with Max about the upcoming series and his love of G.I. JOE.

IDW: *Max, thanks for talking with us. We understand the focus of this series is a little different than traditional G.I. JOE comics. Can you tell us a bit about how it's structured and what went into making that decision?*

MAX BROOKS: Basically, it's a "day in the life" format. What does it take to be a Joe or a Cobra? What are their motivations, their backgrounds, their goals. In short, it's an up-close-and-personal look into the hearts and minds of these characters.

IDW: *When choosing the characters to spotlight, what were your criteria? Was there anyone you were just dying to write about?*

MB: Different characters held different appeal for me. The process started with Firefly. To me, he was the character who always got short changed. I used to watch the series religiously and, you know, I only saw ONE episode, with Firefly! I wrote his story on spec, submitted it to IDW and they apparently liked it so much, they wanted more.

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IDW: You're introducing some of these characters for the first time in the current G.I. JOE continuity for IDW Publishing as a Hasbro. Did you feel a need to remain totally faithful to a particular version of the characters, or did you strike out in new directions?

MB: I tried to stay as true to the characters as possible. My goal was to fill in some of the blanks, answer some of the questions fans like me would have about many of the characters. Even when I did overhaul some of the characters, I did my best not to contradict previously existing material. Of course, that wasn't always possible, and so I'm sure I'll offend any devotees of the orthodox characters.

IDW: Rumor has it you were a big G.I. JOE fan as a kid yourself. True? And if so, did you seek out this project or did it find you?

MB: Damn right, I was (and am) a fan. I sought them out, no question about it. This is their house, I'm just a guest. For a guy like me who's used to being my own boss, this should be a hint at how much of a fan I am.

IDW: How has it been working with Howard Chaykin and Antonio Fuso?

MB: Hated them both. No, seriously, it was awesome. I'm not an artist. My four-year-old draws better than me. What those guys do is simply astounding to a brain like mine.

IDW: Your book World War Z is a huge hit. Any chance we're going to see some zombie action in G.I. JOE: HEARTS & MINDS?

MB: Not this time around, but who knows? If this miniseries is a hit, maybe we'll do it again, and who knows who, or what, will show up.

IDW: Are you disappointed not to have zombies? I mean, I know we are. Ha ha.

MB: Again, for me to make a departure from the living dead, you know I gotta be passionate about this project.

IDW: Thanks for taking the time to talk with us, Max.

Be on the lookout for G.I. JOE: HEARTS & MINDS #1, on sale in May!

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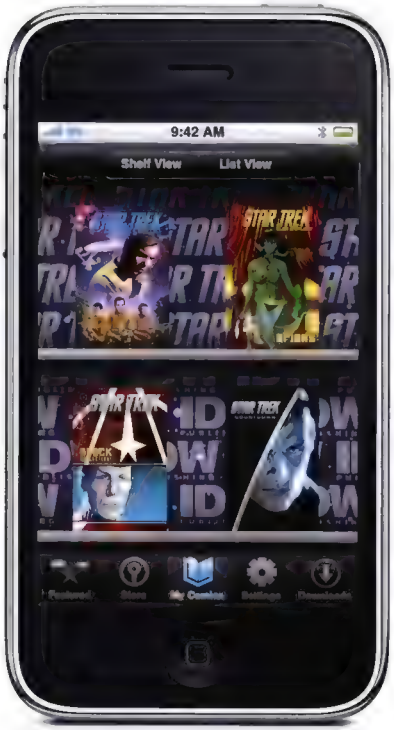

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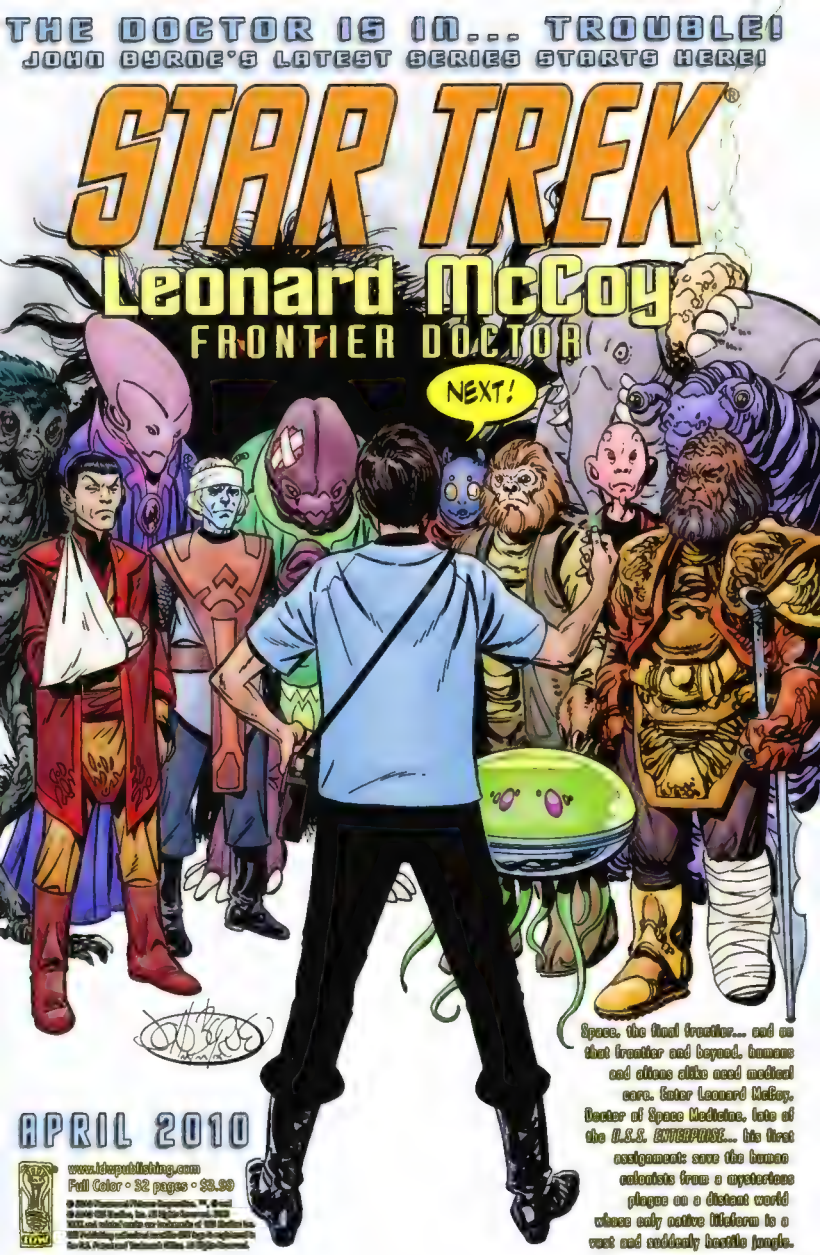

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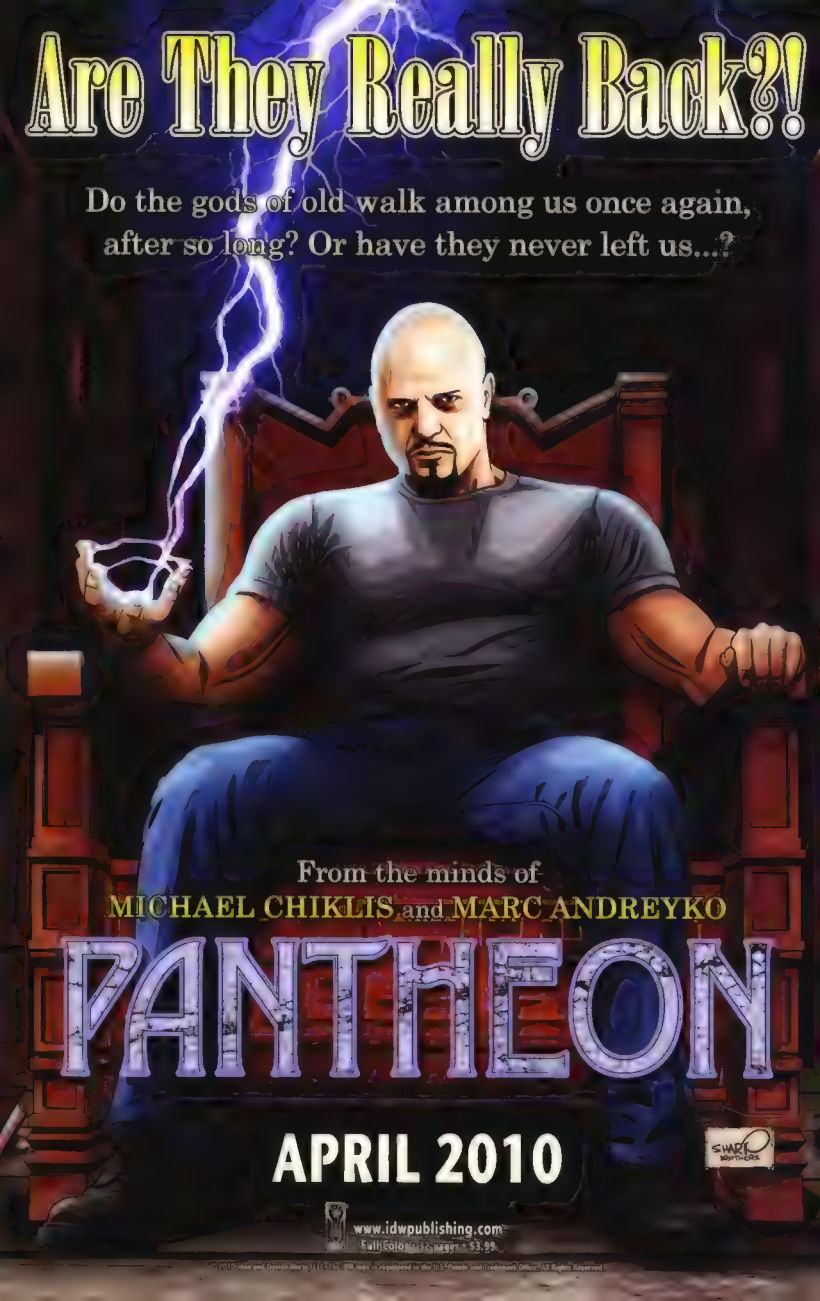
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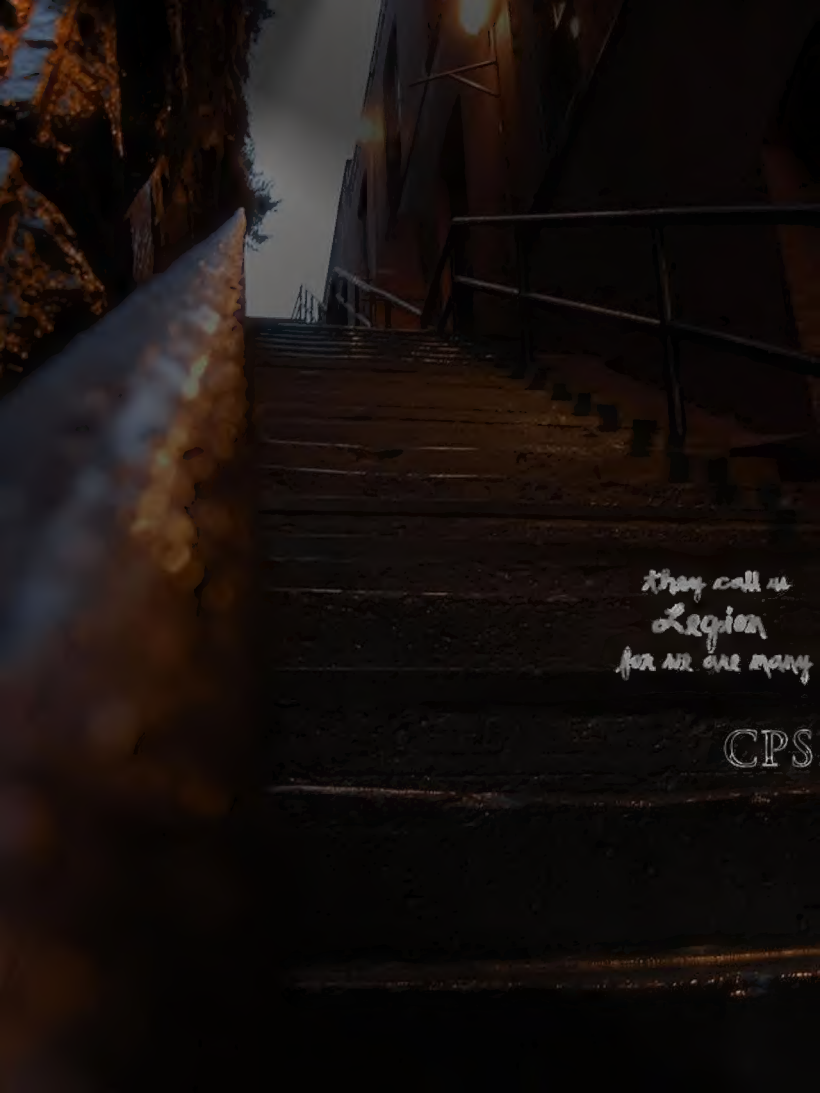
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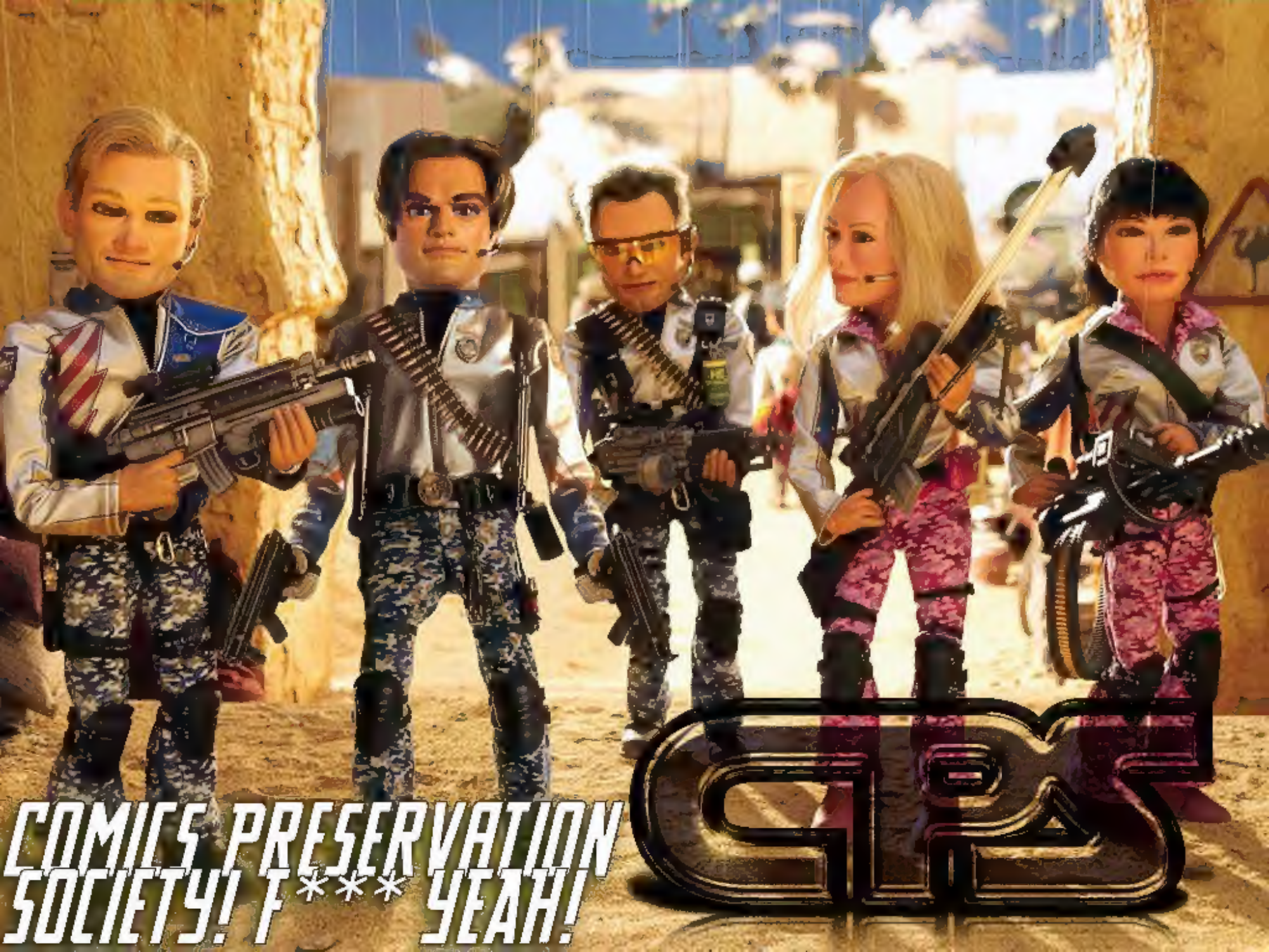
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